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CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

24-Hour Report

4 March 2021

(U) CALIFORNIA

(U) Grass Valley – Butane Honey Oil Lab Explodes at Apartment Complex

(U) An illegal butane honey oil lab exploded at a Grass Valley apartment complex Monday night, leaving an adult and a child hospitalized with burn injuries, police said. Another child in the apartment at the time of the explosion was treated and released at the scene, Grass Valley police said on Tuesday. Grass Valley police identified the adult as Kyle Patche, 31. He and the juvenile were taken to Sacramento area trauma centers. Patche will face charges that include illegal manufacturing of a controlled substance, two counts of child endangerment causing injury, and other charges associated with the fire.

SOURCE: 2 March 2021, KCRA 3

(U) Sacramento – Text Message Phishing Scam Poses as California DMV

(U) The California DMV issued an alert this week about a text message phishing scam related to REAL ID compliance. Some people have recently said they received a text message that says, "Our records indicate that your contact information must be updated for REAL ID Compliance. Provide an Up-to-date Mailing Address and Phone Number." Pressing the continue button brings up another message that says, "Action Needed: Due to an update on our new regulation complaint, every CaDMV customer must update their contact information." It also includes a link where customers are urged to update their information. The DMV says it would never ask for personal information through email, text, or over the phone.

SOURCE: 3 March 2021, CBS 13 Sacramento

(U) NATIONAL

(U) District of Columbia - Security Tight at Capitol After Law Enforcement Warned of Possible Attack (U) Washington – Security has been tightened around the US Capitol in Washington DC, the scene of a deadly assault on 6 January, after police warned that a militia group might try to attack it on Thursday, an important day in the calendar for some pro-Trump conspiracy theorists. 4 March is the day when believers in the baseless QAnon conspiracy have claimed that former President Donald Trump, defeated by President Joe Biden in the 3 November election, will be sworn in for a second term in office. 4 March is the date when US presidents were inaugurated until 1933.

SOURCE: 4 March 2021, Reuters

(U) Tennessee – 150 Missing Children Recovered in Operation

(U) Nashville - The US Marshals Service, Tennessee Department of Children's Services, and the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation (TBI) announced 150 children were recovered as part of Operation Volunteer Strong. In the fall of 2020, the agencies began creating files on 240 children that had been reported missing in the state. The operation ended in February with 150 of those children recovered. The children ranged in age from three to 17 years old, Shelly Smitherman with the TBI said. SOURCE: 3 March 2021, WREG

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(U) INTERNATIONAL

(U) Canada – Man Guilty of Murder in Toronto Vehicle Ramming Attack

(U) Toronto – A man who plowed a rented van into dozens of people in Toronto in 2018 was found guilty of murdering 10 people and attempting to murder 16, a judge ruled yesterday, dismissing a defense argument that the suspect's mental disorder left him with no idea how horrific his actions were. Alek Minassian, 28, told police he was motivated by a desire to punish society for his perceived status as an "incel," short for involuntary celibate. Minassian had pleaded not criminally responsible, but the defense failed to prove Minassian's autism spectrum disorder deprived him of the capacity to know his actions were wrong, Judge Anne Molloy said in the verdict.

SOURCE: 3 March 2021, Reuters

(U) Mexico – Six Men Found Dead Wearing Vests with Cartel Initials

(U) Ciudad Victoria – Authorities in the northern Mexico border state of Tamaulipas said yesterday that six men wearing vests with the initials of a drug cartel have been found dead near the city of Reynosa, across the border from McAllen, Texas. An official said the six had all been shot in the head and all were found wearing military-style vests bearing the initials "CDG," which stands for the Cartel del Golfo. The criminal group has long dominated the area but has been fragmented by internal factions and turf battles with remnants of the old Zetas cartel.

SOURCE: 3 March 2021, Associated Press

(U) Netherlands – COVID Test Center Hit by Bomb Attack

(U) Bovenkarspel – Police have said they are working on the assumption that an explosion which damaged a Dutch coronavirus test center yesterday morning was a deliberate attack. No one was hurt in the blast, which blew out half a dozen windows of the drive-through test center in Bovenkarspel. Dutch media reported that a crude pipe bomb exploded outside the test center. No suspects have been identified.

SOURCE: 3 March 2021, The Guardian

(U) Sweden – Three Injured in Ax Attack

(U) Stockholm – Hospital officials say three people wounded in an assault by a man using an ax in southern Sweden are in life-threatening condition and police have reduced the overall number of victims to seven. The suspected assailant, a 22-year-old Afghan man, was shot, arrested and is being treated in a hospital, police said. Sweden's Home Affairs Minister Mikael Damberg said that the case was being investigated as attempted murder, but all aspects would be considered, including whether it was a terror attack.

SOURCE: 4 March 2021, <u>Associated Press</u>

(U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.

(U) FOR QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS, PLEASE EMAIL STAC@CALOES.CA.GOV, OR CALL 916-636-2900.